**Minutes of the Regular Meeting-7:30pm Tuesday,**

**February 8, 2022**

**Mendota VFW 1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Mendota Minnesota**

1. Call to order: Mayor Mielke called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Present: Mayor Mielke. Council members Golias, Perron, Rasmussen and Donnelly. City Attorney Tom Loonan, City Clerk Kathy Krotter, Captain Wegener, Engineer Lucas Jones, and Building official Mike Andrejka.

4. Agenda: No changes to the agenda.

5. Approval of January 11, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve last month’s minutes, with corrections, by Council member Golias and seconded by Council member Rasmussen. Approved 3-0. Abstained Mayor and council Member Donnelly, absent for meeting.

6. Approval of public hearing meeting January 24, 2022 minutes. Motion to approve Public hearing meeting minutes by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 5-0.

7. Treasurer’s Report: Motion to pay the bills by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council member Golias. Approved 5-0.

8. Building Official Report Mike Andrejka: Mike issued three permits. Closed four permits.

9. Public Hearing Meeting: Meeting for zoning code and ordinance update. Mayor Mielke opened public hearing at 7:34pm. Jennifer Haskamp said that the full draft is 100% complete. Jennifer talked about the open house and that it was very well attended. Jennifer Haskamp went through the zoning codes, height standards, separated from river district, river neighborhoods and residents gave their input, their ideas and thoughts. The heights of buildings were discussed between the 35 feet that is currently in place and possibly changing it to 50 feet (which is about a four story building). The 35 feet was kept. Domestic farm animals were brought up, and in the zoning code was put that you have to maintain the domestic farm animals fully contained on a lot, and if you have chicken coops they have to meet all the setbacks. Our ordinance covers the kinds of animals that can be kept. A resident read a letter that she wrote explaining what Mendota should look like and the history of Mendota.

Public hearing closed at 8:01 pm.

Mr. Loonan stated that there was no formal resolution to adopt at this time, but Jennifer would like some directions and she would then come back in March and wrap this up. We need to have decisions on what needs to be completed in the zoning codes tonight so Jennifer can change them for the formal resolution in March. Council discussed their concerns and what they would like changed or added to the zoning codes. Council member Golias read off code numbers that needed corrections and some he needed clarification on. Tom stated that we need to clarify what changes need to be done for the zoning code, so Jennifer can make the corrections for the March meeting. Changes discussed: 20 x 20 for the main structure or no minimum, accessory dwelling and parking minimum, temporary dwelling while home is being built should have water and sewer hook-up, domestic animals need to be maintained on their property, and finally the height requirement which will be set at 35 feet. Motion to approve corrections by Council member Golias and seconded by Mayor Mielke. Approved 5-0.

10. M Warren variance application: Tom explained the process of what has to happen tonight with the Variance for Mr. Warren’s property, located at D Street and Victoria Curve. Tom explained what Mr. Warren is asking for in the Variance. Tom brought two resolutions with him, one that approves the variance and one that denies the variance. Lucas prepared an exhibit of the property in question and the slope setbacks. Lucas put the diagram of the property over the area in question. Jennifer Haskamp stated that if it meets the practical difficulties and you agree to move forward, then you have the opportunity to set those conditions. If he is not asking for a variance it is a buy right situation, which means he doesn’t have to do all the storm water calculations or the boring samples. The single family home is the buy right and cannot place conditions on the property. The Mayor and Council talked about their concerns to make their decisions.

Motion to deny variance by Mayor Mielke seconded by council member Perron. Council voted 3 yes to deny variance, 2 no’s.

11. Business and Liquor licenses: City clerk stated that all liquor licenses have been paid and filed. The Businesses sent in their applications and paid their fees with the exception of Historic Oaks. Allied Garbage Hauler have filled out the application but the check comes from out of state. Motion to approve business licenses by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 5-0 with the exception of Historic Oaks. If not paid by March 8, 2022 a late fee will be assessed.

12. Public Comments: 9:34 pm. Resident made a statement that the sidewalk by Axels was still pretty icy. City clerk Kathy said she would give them a call. Closed public comment at 9:35 pm.

13. Council Comments: 9:35 pm.

Council Member Rasmussen, nothing.

Council Member Golias, nothing

Mayor Mielke: Monday February 1st, Mayor attended the meeting of Beyond the Yellow Ribbon. Mendota Days is back on and will be July 9th. Mayor Mielke was on Twin Cities Live on January 28th. Mayor has been having several conversations with the realtor that is selling Tracy’s lot. Mayor suggested that they put together an offer for the city lot.

Council Member Donnelly: Council member Donnelly gave an update on the cable company meetings. The cable company has been running executive only meetings for the last six months. There was a major proposal and lawsuit by the cable company and the cable commissions fought and won. Which benefits the city.

Council Member Perron had nothing.

Closed council comments at 9:38 pm.

14. Staff Comments: 9:38 pm. Captain Wegener stated that last time we discussed numbers for cases and incidents. So in 2021, there were 37 criminal cases, which happens to be identical to 2020. The All Hazard Mitigation Plan has not yet been completed by the county. But when it does it will come before the council with a resolution to adopt it. Captain asked if there were any questions or comments. No comments.

Lucas Jones: Stated that with Tracy’s property there is an interested party and they are interested in what can and cannot be done on the property. Lucas gave him some guidance but did not tell him what to do. Lucas will talk to Tom and find out what he can and cannot talk about with them.

Bonding bill: The Governors recommendation for projects came out and Mendota was not on that. Representative Hansen did put out a bill that included Mendota, Lilydale and Mendota Heights, with all their projects and hopefully it will be included in the legislative side.

Lucas stated that Clare will give the council an update on the comp plan and some of the changes from your input and what Met Council says. Clare and Lucas are still jumping through the final hoops with Met Council on the comp plan and they have their last meeting with Met Council this coming Friday the 11th. The local management plan is still in its review process with the DNR, both of the city’s water shed districts, and with Met Council and it is a longer review process. Clare is going to get the Comp plan approved from the Met Council so that we can move on with the zoning codes.

Lucas provided the city with the geotechnical reports on upper D Street landslide which the removal of vegetation, especially trees, played a large part in the landslide.

Lawyer Tom Loonan: Stated that he also handled telephone calls for Tracy’s property and it is really in Tracy and his relator’s control. Tom stated that he would work with them. Tom has also been working with Jennifer Haskamp on the zoning. He is also working on the Warren Variance that was presented tonight and will be changing some of the wording on the resolution, that was voted on tonight by the council.

City Clerk Krotter: Clerk stated that the auditors did pick up the paperwork on February 1, 2022, to start the audit for the city.

Closed staff comment at 9:58 pm.

15. Adjourn: 9:58pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council member Donnelly and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 5-0.